# COVID-19 UPDATES & INFORMATION

**DUBLIN BUSINESS BRIEF** 



August 31, 2020 Special Notice

# New Color-Coded Four-Tier "Blueprint for Safe Reopening" for California Businesses

On **Monday, August 31, 2020**, the State's new color-coded, four-tier Blueprint for Safe Reopening went in effect, replacing the State's Monitoring List. Alameda County is in the State's Purple Tier per their newly announced framework, which is the most restrictive tier. This framework both loosens and tightens restrictions for allowable local activities of businesses in Alameda County.

Local jurisdictions may continue to be more restrictive than the State in allowing local activities and businesses openings, so Dublin businesses must continue to follow whichever order is more strict.

MINIMAL

MODERATE

SUBSTANTIAL

WIDESPREAD

While the State once again permits retail in shopping malls, it also places additional restrictions on retail, which apply to businesses in Alameda County. As of today (Monday, August 31), all indoor retail must limit capacity to a maximum of 25%, except for grocery stores, which must limit capacity to a maximum of 50%.

#### **Building Occupancy:**

To determine the allowed occupancy of your commercial space, look to see if you have a "maximum occupancy" sign (often near the main entry). This is the original maximum occupancy. Then, multiply the original occupancy load by the COVID capacity limit for your industry (25% for indoor retail and 50% for grocery stores).

If you need to calculate your original occupancy load, use this formula:

Retail square footage divided by 60 equals the original occupancy load.

RETAIL EXAMPLE for a 10,000 square foot retail space:

10,000/60 = 166.7 (round to 167 occupants)

 $167 \times 25\% = 41.7$  (round to 42 occupants)

In this example, the retail space would be allowed to have 42 occupants indoors.

#### **Links and Resources:**

Look up the State's **Industry Guidance** for Retail.

Read Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD)'s <u>press release</u> (issued 8/28/2020).

Read the <u>list of business types</u> currently permitted to operate in Alameda County (Please Note: Alameda County continues to restrict indoor hair salons and barbershops, and we will inform you once that changes).

Read the County **Industry Guidance**.

Employers seeking technical assistance with the County Health Order, including guidance on re-opening, should <u>email</u> the ACPHD.

Reminder: ACPHD urges everyone to wear a mask in public, wash hands regularly, keep at least six feet of physical distance when in public, and limit mixing with people outside their household. These actions will help Alameda County to move to a less restrictive tier.

# **IBANK's California Rebuilding Fund**

Last week, the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) announced the California Rebuilding Fund, a new public-private partnership that will leverage government backed capital to support California's small businesses - especially the smallest under-served firms and entrepreneurs from communities that have been historically disenfranchised.

The California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank), will lead this public-private partnership to provide capital to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and other mission-based lenders that provide much-needed loans to California's underbanked small businesses. With the support of this new IBank funding, California's CDFIs will increase their capacity to help small businesses recover and reposition themselves to survive the realities of the COVID-19 marketplace.

The program has three main ways it is supporting small businesses:

- 1. A loan fund that will make flexible, affordable loans to small businesses with 50 employees or fewer through participating community lenders.
- 2. A free resource guide built and updated by pro-bono lawyers at Morrison & Foerster that includes county by county guidance on reopening, other financial resources available, and the latest on commercial eviction moratoriums. The guide is available in <a href="English">English</a> (PDF) and <a href="Spanish">Spanish</a> (PDF).
- 3. Free <u>virtual office hours</u> staffed by expert lawyers so that small businesses

have a place to get specific questions answered. Office hours are held weekly, currently on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

For more information, visit IBANK's website.

On IBANK's website, businesses/borrowers can also sign-up to receive information about the California Rebuilding Fund.

### **Ask an Attorney**

Thursdays at 4 p.m.

On **Zoom**, password: baseforce

In addition to the weekly "virtual office hours" mentioned above, the <u>Alameda County Small Business Development Center</u> (SBDC), is hosting a free weekly webinar with experienced professionals and attorneys proving updates and answering questions from local businesses about disaster funding sources, unemployment, payroll issues and more.

### **LISC Small Business Relief Grants**

Round 6 of the LISC Small Business Relief Grants for small businesses is now open. This national program supports small businesses facing immediate financial pressure because of COVID-19. The deadline to apply is Monday, September 7th, 11:59 p.m. ET.



For more information, which is available in multiple languages, visit LISC's <u>website</u>.

## **Outsmart Disaster with the Resilient Business Challenge**

The <u>Outsmart Disaster</u> campaign aims to equip California businesses with the tools they need to get back to business faster in the face of any disaster.

The program includes the Resilient Business Challenge (RBC), a self-guided online tool curated by state and local economic development experts. The RBC lays out multiple ways a business can mitigate the risks involved with a natural disaster including five detailed steps towards business resiliency.



The California Academy for Economic Development is hosting a one-hour preview of the campaign's RBC for economic development stakeholders and businesses in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

RSVP via <u>email</u> to attend the RBC Preview on either September 15th at 10:00 a.m. or September 17th at 5:00 p.m.

# Alameda County SBDC Helps Local Businesses



As part of the Northern California SBDC network, the Alameda County Small Business Development Center (ACSBDC) serves all of Alameda County. ACSBDC works hands-on with entrepreneurs and business owners to address challenges, seize opportunities and grow their bottom line.

From January 1 through June 30, SBDC directly served 55 Dublin-based clients with a total of 174 hours of private advising resulting in \$467,000 in capital. Many additional businesses received free, COVID-related/CARES Act support through webinars and online resources.

The ACSBDC is hosted by the Ohlone Community College District and offers long-term, in-depth, no cost advising for existing businesses and certain start-ups in Alameda County. Their services go beyond COVID-19 related support and include:

- Loan and Equity Investment Advice
- Strategic Planning
- Financial Projections & Budgeting
- Marketing and Sales
- Technology Integration
- Human Resource Management
- Operations
- Exports
- More...

ACSBDC serves small businesses like yours. The 55 Dublin clients served so far in 2020, came from a variety of industries, including:

- · accommodation and food service
- service establishment
- retail
- research and development
- real estate
- professional, science, and behavioral sciences
- manufacturing
- information
- healthcare
- educational services
- construction
- arts and education

To request free, individualized and confidential one-on-one advising, complete the SBDC <u>online application</u>.

For more information, visit ACSBDC's website.

#### We Are Here for You

The City of Dublin appreciates our business community and remains committed to being your source for reliable and accessible information and resources.

In addition to the COVID-19 <u>Business Impacts webpage</u>, we have compiled a COVID-19 <u>Business Resource Guide</u> (PDF, last updated 7/14/2020). Be sure to also visit the City's <u>COVID-19 webpage</u> with up-to-date information and resources about the pandemic.

The Economic Development Division team is available via <u>email</u> or by calling 925-833-6650. Language assistance is available over the phone by request.

The Dublin Business Brief is a bi-monthly publication highlighting the latest news and events affecting the business community. For more information or assistance, please contact Economic Development via email, economic.development@dublin.ca.gov or phone (925) 833-6650.

General Information

(925) 833-6650

City Manager

(925) 833-6650

Community Development

(925) 833-6620

**Economic Development** 

(925) 833-6650

**Environmental Services** 

(925) 833-6630

Administrative Services

(925) 833-6640

Fire Prevention

(925) 833-6606

Human Resources (925) 833-6605

Parks and Community Services

(925) 556-4500

Police (non-emergency)

(925) 833-6670

Public Works (925) 833-6630

**City of Dublin** 

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